

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Then part(b). Has the Diwan Peishkar submitted any report to the Government about the failure of the crops?

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—I think the answer (b) in a way indicates that a report was submitted.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—It has to be made clear.

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—A report has been submitted. The Government are unable to do so at this stage.

Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—May I know why it is not possible to do it now?

Rao Sahib T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—It is not possible to consider it now, since final orders have already been passed. No public interest will now be served. It is a confidential document.

The registration of new fishing stakes.

77. Mr. I. E. Ambooken.—Will the Government be pleased to state whether the registration of new fishing stakes is allowed without selling the right of occupancy in public auction, as mentioned in *the Land Revenue Manual* section, 220 (2)? If so, what reasons have necessitated the taking of such a step?

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—Fishing stakes sites are, as a rule, assigned after sale in public auction. In rare cases, where there is no competition, and where an auction is not possible, the stakes are assigned in the names of the applicants after realising reasonable site value.

78. Mr. I. E. Ambooken.—Will the Government be pleased to state whether they keep any rule as to the width of the locality in the backwater in which the fishing stakes are newly registered? If so, what is it? Has the Government ever come to know that the public are put to difficulties by having obstruction for their traffic in the backwaters by putting fishing stakes in places where there is only a small width?

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—The rule regarding the planting of fishing stakes is as follows:—

No new stakes shall be allowed to be planted in the main channel within a distance of 3 chains from either side of the shores of the backwater. In the case of narrow canals, the Tahsildar of the Taluk will determine the distance.

The Government are not aware of any difficulties experienced by reason of the planting of the stakes in narrow channels.

Stakes are allowed to be planted only in sufficiently wide channels, and care is taken to leave enough water-way for purposes of traffic.

The use of the soil of assigned lands for making bricks.

79. Mr. I. E. Ambooken.— Will the Government be pleased to state whether sanction is required for using the soil of assigned lands for making bricks for the construction of small huts, etc.? If so, who is the sole authority to give such sanction, and how is such sanction to be obtained by the ryots? Will the Government be pleased to transfer the power of granting such sanction to the local Panchayats, in view of the fact that the poor villagers are put to great inconvenience owing to the difficulty to obtain sanction from Tahsildars?

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—Yes. The member is referred to the provision in Chapter IV of *the Land Revenue Manual* which contains all the information required by him. The Government do not consider that the existing arrangement works any hardship on the ryots, and that there is any necessity to alter it. The member is also referred to the answer to question No. 219 (legislative session).

The income from laterite quarrying.

80. Mr. Chakko Cheruvathur.—Will the Government be pleased to state—

(a) the amount of income from laterite quarrying from each taluk separately;

(b) the amount of income from granite quarrying from each taluk;

(c) the amount of income from removing gravel, earth and turf from each taluk;

(d) how many petitions were received from each taluk separately for quarrying each of the above materials during the last three years;

(e) how many petitions were rejected, and what were the reasons for their rejection;

(f) in how many cases was sanction accorded within 15 days of their receipt in the Taluk Office;

(g) in how many cases was sanction accorded after (i) one month, (ii) three months, (iii) six months and (iv) nine months;

(h) is the Government aware of the fact that a vast majority of quarrying is being carried on for the primary necessity of man, viz., the building of houses and for the improvement of agriculture;